

METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 MINUTES

The Chairperson, Emil Wilson called to order the September 8, 2011 meeting at 7:10 p.m. This meeting was held at Illinois Department of Transportation, Collinsville.

PRESENT

Emil Wilson, Chairperson
Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson
Margaret Merrell, Member
Carol Neudecker, Member
Thomas Cannady, Member
David Bollone, Member
Karen Kelly, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Michael J. Pintar

ABSENT

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Member
Sandy Burbank, Member

GUESTS

Mike Lowry, Director
Georgia, Associate Director
Trinity Services Southwest Operations

INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairperson recognized that a quorum was present and read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those disabled persons on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

The Chairperson asked for changes in the agenda. The Coordinator suggested that case 12-070-9004 to the top of the agenda to accommodate the guests.

MINUTES

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the August 11, 2011 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Upon a motion by Kingston Schmid seconded by Thomas Cannady, members present voted to approve the minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Coordinator noted that the visitors were attending to address a case that was listed as a new allegation in the agenda. That case, 12-070-9004 was opened by emergency vote on September Illinois Department of Transportation has changed its policy and it no longer provides evening time building security which means that accessibility to the building may be impeded. The HRA will monitor progress and ensure the HRA meeting place allows access to the persons it serves.

NEW BUSINESS:

12-070-9004 - The HRA received information from a neighbor has witnesses several occasions when a resident runs from the staff and into traffic and the

concerned neighbor states she there have been several incidents when she thought the consumer or staff chasing him would be injured. That agency erected a tall privacy fence around a CILA and all three gates are locked. Two man doors have combination locks and the drive way gate has a bicycle lock on it. A guardian could not enjoy unimpeded visitation. This case was opened by emergency vote on August 26, 2011.

12-070-9005 - A guardian was visiting a ward and asked to see a second ward that lived at the facility. The guardian was told that he could not visit that ward for at least two hours because the social worker was not available to assist him with visitation arrangements.

12-070-9006 - a CILA with six residents over the age of 50 admitted a very young consumer who is raising cane with all residents including physical threats and other dangerous behavior. This is not an appropriate placement and some of the residents are fearful for their safety.

12-070-9007 - three consumers complained that they are not allowed to have their lap top computers that they used in the past to play games, enjoy personal photo galleries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 721 of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, upon a motion by Kingston Schmid, seconded by Thomas Cannady, the Authority went into closed session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

Case Progress Reports:

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Case progress reports

1. 11-070-9010 - Alton Mental Health Center - privileging (search)
2. 11-070-9016 - Alton Mental Health Center - level & communication
3. 11-070-9017 - Alton Mental Health Center - lost privilege (\$)
4. 11-070-9025 - Call for Help - communication
5. 11-070-9030 - Alton Mental Health Center - makeup
6. 11-070-9033 - Alton Mental Health Center - privileges [tobacco]
7. 11-070-9027 - Gateway Medical Center - involuntary admit & medication
8. 12-070-9004 - Trinity Services - safety
9. 12-050-9006 - Epilepsy - safety

B. Reports of Findings:

1. 11-070-9009 - Alton Mental Health Center - restraint

C. Case Closures:

1. 11-070-9019 and 11-070-9032 - DRS Department of Human Services - denied services

The HRA returned to open session at 8:18 p.m. upon a motion by Kingston Schmid, seconded by Carol Neudecker.

Upon returning to open session:

B. Reports of findings:

1. 11-050-9009 - Alton Mental Health Center - restraint. Upon a motion by Kingston Schmid seconded by Carol Neudecker, members voted for report approval.

C. Case Closures:

1. 10-070-9021 - Alton Mental Health Center - property - no music upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Kingston Schmid members voted for case closure.
2. 11-050-9019 & 9032 - Illinois Department of Human Services - Department of Rehabilitation (combined cases) Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Carol Nuedecker, members voted to table case closure awaiting response from the agency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

The next meeting will be October 13, 2011 at Illinois Department of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary